

REMARKS

Claims 1-17, 31-36, and 38-40 are currently pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 34 has been amended; and claim 37 has been cancelled herein.

Applicant acknowledges the recognition that claims 1-17, and 31-40 are allowed; and claim 37 is objected to as being dependent on a rejected claim.

§ 103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 34-36 and 38-40 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Edwards U.S. Patent No. 6,405,732 (referred to herein as “Edwards ‘732”) in view of Edwards, U.S. Patent No. 6,254,598 (referred to herein as “Edwards ‘598”). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Although Applicant does not concede the correctness of this rejection, claim 34 has been amended herein to add the subject matter of claim 37 which was previously indicated as being allowable. Applicant therefore respectfully asserts that claims 34-36, and 38-40 are now allowable.

Applicant also notes that there may be other arguments which were not presented herein, and Applicant does not concede those arguments by not having presented them herein. Applicant also does not necessarily agree with the correctness of statements made in the Office Action that were not rebutted herein.

In view of the foregoing amendments and comments, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the claims as all rejections have been overcome. Early notice of allowability is kindly requested.

Please grant any extension of time, if necessary for entry of this paper, and charge any fee due for such extension or any other fee required in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-3964.

Respectfully submitted,

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